

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
February 15, 2023
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: William Tyrrell Giles, Rick Wells, Lisa Chavis, Shawn Denney, Sherron Freeman, Deborah Whitfield, Tom Shevlot, Maria Rusomaroff, and Lauren Russel

MEMBERS BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton, Attorney Kristina Wheeler (Bose McKinney & Evans LLP) and Jeff Slater (Lord Corporation)

STAFF PRESENT: Chief of Staff Korn and Director of Economic Development Zuerner

STAFF BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: Chief of Staff Hofmann

Council President William Giles called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and announced a quorum was present.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Rusomaroff thanked Executive Assistant Rafala and the Lawrence Police Department for eliminating overnight parking issues in her district. Councilor Wells thanked Park Superintendent Matin for his role in getting the Lawrence Little League parade organized. It is scheduled for April. Councilor Shevlot said he spoke to the controller about Proposal No. 3, 2023. According to the controller, this proposal will likely make our debt payments late. He then shifted his attention to Proposal No. 4, 2023 and expressed concern that it sounded like micromanagement. In both cases, he sought an explanation about why it is being done.

Councilor Giles then called for a brief recess at 6:37 p.m.
The meeting resumed a 6:42 p.m.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 2-15-23: Councilor Denney moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$1,097,396.44 [January 30, 2023, payroll], and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$1,080,040.87] except for voucher number 29101 in the amount of \$52,937.78 for Howard Companies. Councilor Chavis seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion carried by the following vote of the Council: Seven (7) aye votes and two (1) nay votes (Councilors Shevlot and Russel).

Councilor Denney said the Finance Committee met tonight and discussed Resolution No. 3, 2023. They recommended a do-pass for Resolution No. 3, 2023.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Resolution No. 3, 2023, approve the statement of benefits of the Lord Corporation, a subsidiary of Parker-Hannifin, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Following discussion, Councilor Denney moved to adopt Resolution No. 3, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chavis and carried by a unanimous vote of the council.

Proposal No. 1, 2023, amending the Lawrence Municipal Code to remove no parking zones along Otis Avenue, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Giles assigned Proposal No. 1, 2023 to the Code Committee.

Proposal No. 2, 2023, appropriating additional funds and amending the 2023 budget with respect to the General Fund, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. There will be a public hearing on Proposal No. 2, 2023 on March 6, 2023, at 6:30pm. Councilor Giles assigned Proposal No. 2, 2023 to the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Giles said nominations for a member of the Fire Merit Commission was open for consideration. Councilor Russel nominated Desmond Woods. Councilor Denney nominated Damonn Burns. Councilor Giles announced that, there being no further nominations, nominations were closed. By a show of hands, Nine votes were cast, 7 votes for Damonn Burns and 2 votes for Demond Woods. Clerk Walton announced that Damonn Burns was elected to the Fire Merit Commission.

Proposal No. 3, 2023, amending Title 3, Article 1, Chapter 1, Section 2 of the Municipal Code regarding preapproved payment of claims, was introduced and read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Giles assigned Proposal No. 3, 2023 to the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee.

Proposal No. 4, 2023, amending Title 1, Article 1, Chapter 2, Section 12 of the Municipal Code regarding Common Council approval on expenditures of professional service contracts, was introduced and read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Giles assigned Proposal No. 4, 2023 to the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee

Resolution No. 5, 2023, authorizing the transfer of appropriations between major budget classifications, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Giles assigned Resolution No. 5 2023 to the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee

Resolution No. 6, 2023, approving the Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC contract to develop a comprehensive financial plan, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Giles assigned Resolution No. 6, 2023 to the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee

Resolution No. 7, 2023, approving the Krohn & Associates contract for accounting services to review the City's 2022 financial records as part of the council's budget investigation, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Following discussion, Councilor Chavis moved to adopt Resolution No. 7, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilor Denney. The motion carried by the following vote of the Council: Six (6) aye votes, two (2) nay votes (Councilors Shevlot and Russel), and one (1) abstention (Councilor Wells).

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

William T. Giles, President

Kathleen A. Walton, Clerk

These minutes are not intended to be verbatim. They are a summary of discussions held, except for the motions.